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Local UM students put academics to work

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The University of
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NEWS RELEASE

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LOCAL UM STUDENTS PUT ACADEMICS TO WORK

MISSOULA --

Another promising cadre of University of Montana students took their academic skills to the workplace spring semester in internships offered through UM's Center for Work-Based Learning. Among them are the following:

■ Natalie Sorensen of **Kalispell**, a graduate student who interned at the Great Bear Foundation in Missoula doing research on bear habitat and population. She graduated from Flathead High School in 1992. Her parents are Al and Lu Sorensen.

■ Leslie M. Evans of **Whitefish**, a senior in organizational communication who interned at Walt Disney World Resort in Lake Buena Vista, Fla. She worked part time at the Magic Kingdom Park and participated in business seminars. Evans is a 1996 Whitefish High School graduate. Her parents are Mike and JoAnne Evans.

■ Cheryl Eslami of **Bigfork**, a junior in psychology who interned as a crime victim's advocate for the YWCA Pathways program in Missoula. She took a 45-hour training course, gaining the skills to answer the 24-hour hotline and serve as an advocate for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. She also counseled residents at the Women's Shelter. Eslami graduated from Bigfork High School in 1997. Her mother is Kay Silva.

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■ Billy Fricker of **Polson**, a junior in business finance who interned as a computer information systems specialist at Western Security Bank in Missoula. Fricker graduated from Polson High School in 1994. His parents are Ron and Lyn Fricker.

Work-Based Learning's internship program helps students integrate their academic education with job experience by developing work opportunities and coordinating placement activities with employers and faculty advisers. The program serves about 1,800 students a year, placing 400 to 500 of them as interns throughout Montana and the nation in more than 35 fields of employment. For information, visit the Web site at http://www.umt.edu/coop_intern/wbl/.

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